



FREE COMIC BOOK DAY

1

ABSOLUTE POWER

SPECIAL EDITION

THE PRELUDE
TO THE
EPIC
EVENT!

DAW
MORA

13+
TEEN

WAID
JANIN
MULVIHILL

**DAMIAN WAYNE LEARNS WHAT
IT REALLY MEANS TO BE ROBIN!**

THE BOYS... WONDER.

Written and
drawn by
JUNI BA



**A FIVE-ISSUE
EPIC
STARTING IN
MAY**

THERE
YOU ARE.

I'VE BEEN
EXPECTING
YOU.



**HALL OF ORDER.
(FORMERLY THE
HALL OF JUSTICE.)**

DYLAN
MOORE. OR
DO YOU PREFER
THE NAME
"HAYWIRE"?

WHERE
THE HELL
AM--

YOU HAVE
ELECTRICITY-
BASED ABILITIES
THAT YOU ONCE USED
AGAINST THE TEEN
TITANS?

I WAS
TOLD THIS WAS
PAROLE! LOOK,
I WAS FRAMED,
DAMMIT!

WE'RE
OBSERVANT,
MR. MOORE.

YOU HAVE MOST DEFINITELY
BEEN OPERATING OVERSEAS
AS A POLITICAL TERRORIST.
YOU'VE KILLED SOLDIERS AND
CHILDREN ALIKE.

CLOCK KING,
TAKE MR. MOORE TO
PROCESSING. I'LL
BE ALONG SHORTLY.

TICK-
TOCK, MOORE.
FOLLOW ME.



WH-WHERE AM I? ANOTHER PRISON? WHO ARE YOU PEOPLE? WHO WAS THE ROBOT?

HE'S NOT A ROBOT. I WISH. ROBOTS AREN'T GENERALLY MENACING AUTHORITY FIGURES.

THAT WAS FAILSAFE. THINK BATMAN CROSSED WITH THE TERMINATOR.

CALM DOWN, MOORE. THIS ISN'T ABOUT PUNISHMENT. YOUR PRISON DAYS ARE NOW BEHIND YOU, I PROMISE.



HOW'D YOU GET ME RELEASED?

I SUPPOSE THERE'S NO HARM IN TELLING YOU. YOU ARE, AFTER ALL, ABOUT TO BECOME A PART OF SOMETHING GREATER.

THAT WOMAN THERE?



"THAT'S AMANDA WALLER. SHE'S THE BOSS HERE. THE PUBLIC FACE OF THE BUREAU OF SOVEREIGNTY, WHOSE REMIT IS TO KEEP SUPERHEROES IN CHECK AFTER THAT WHOLE 'BEAST WORLD' FIASCO.

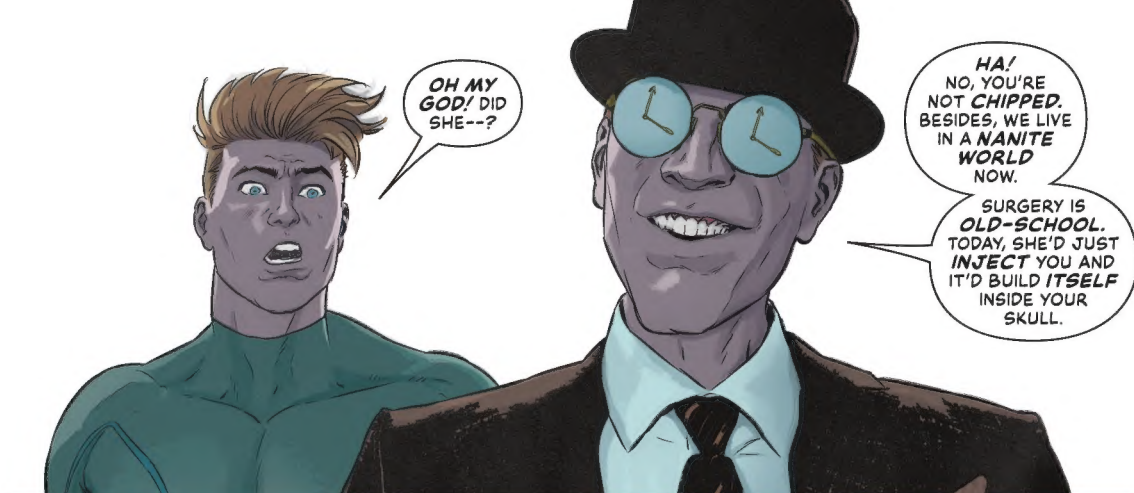
"I'M SURE YOU'VE HEARD OF HER. MOST EVERY META-POWERED CONVICT HAS.

"WIDOWED AT A YOUNG AGE. BLAMES SUPERHEROES FOR REASONS SHE'S NEVER TALKED ABOUT.

"WORKED HER WAY THROUGH THE SERVICE TO RUN TASK FORCE X, A BLACK-OPS OUTFIT--

"--MAYBE BETTER KNOWN TO YOU AS THE SUICIDE SQUAD. KIND OF A WORK-RELEASE PROGRAM WHERE YOU FOLLOW HER MISSION ORDERS--

"--OR SHE DETONATES A BRAIN CHIP THAT BLOWS YOUR HEAD OFF."



OH MY GOD! DID SHE--?

HA! NO, YOU'RE NOT CHIPPED. BESIDES, WE LIVE IN A NANITE WORLD NOW.

SURGERY IS OLD-SCHOOL. TODAY, SHE'D JUST INJECT YOU AND IT'D BUILD ITSELF INSIDE YOUR SKULL.



AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT SHE DID TO ME.

SHE'S GOT SOME KINDA HOLD ON EVERYBODY HERE.

BLACK ALICE. HARLEY QUINN. DEADEYE. THERE ARE OTHERS.



HOW'D WALLER GET ME **SPRUNG**, THEN? SHE MAKE SOME SORT OF DEAL WITH THE WARDEN AT **STRYKER'S**?

OH, SHE NO LONGER HAS TO MAKE DEALS WITH PRISONS, PAL. WANNA HEAR A **HUGE SECRET** NO ONE OUTSIDE THESE WALLS KNOWS YET?



AS OF **LAST WEEK**, IF YOU LOOK BEHIND ENOUGH **SHELL CORPORATIONS** WITHIN **SHELL CORPORATIONS**--

--YOU'LL FIND THAT AMANDA WALLER IS NOW THE **CLANDESTINE OWNER** OF **STRYKER'S ISLAND**, **BLACKGATE**, **IRON HEIGHTS**, **ARKHAM TOWER**--

--BASICALLY **EVERY META-VILLAIN PRISON** IN THE WORLD.



WHOA.

SO...AN
ENDLESS SUPPLY
OF SUICIDE
AGENTS?

OH,
HELL NO! I
DON'T CARE WHAT
SHE'S UP TO, SHE
WILL NOT TURN
ME INTO--

AGAIN,
CAPTAIN COFFEE
NERVES, YOU'RE
SPECIAL.
YOU--



HOLY
& %*#!

DUDE, BE COOL.
BE COOL. YOU'VE
BEEN INFILTRATED! SET
OFF AN ALARM OR
SOMETHING!

OH, FOR
GOD'S SAKE.
INFILTRATED BY
WHO? HIM?



GREEN
ARROW'S ONE
OF US NOW,
MAN.

--NOT A
DAMNED ARCHITECT,
WALLER! WHATEVER YOU'RE
BUILDING HERE, I CAN'T
MAKE HEADS OR
TAILS OF IT!



I'M NOT
ASKING YOU FOR
CONSTRUCTION
ADVICE.

ALL I NEED
FROM YOU IS TO
KNOW IF THIS IS GOING TO
WORK. YOU'LL KNOW
BETTER THAN ANY
OF US.

MY PLANS
FALL APART
OTHERWISE.



"IT"? WHAT'S "IT"?
WHAT **ARE** THEY
BUILDING?

YOU'RE
KILLING ME. YOU
KNOW THE NAME
"**RIDDLER**" IS
ALREADY TAKEN,
RIGHT?

HE MAY NOT
EVEN KNOW. HE **DEFINITELY**
DOESN'T KNOW WHY **YOU'RE**
HERE. HOW DO YOU THINK
WALLER KEEPS ALL HER
POWER?

BY MAKING
SURE NO ONE BUT
HER SEES THE **WHOLE**
PICTURE. SHE'S PLANNING
SOMETHING **HUGE**, BUT
ONLY **SHE** HAS ALL
THE DETAILS.

STAND
THERE.

DON'T
MOVE.



AND BECAUSE
I KNOW YOU'RE
ABOUT TO
ASK...

...STANDARD
PROCEDURE
THESE DAYS.

HARMLESS.
THIS DEVICE GIVES
FAILSAFE A CELLULAR
MAP OF YOUR
BODY.

"TO WHAT
END, KING?"
YOU SAY.



TO MEASURE
YOUR CAPABILITIES
TO THE FULLEST.

YOU'RE
DISMISSED,
CLOCK KING.

MOORE, JOIN
ME IN THE NEXT
ROOM, PLEASE.

WHEN I CLOSE
THIS DOOR, I WANT
YOU TO OPEN UP
ON THIS TARGET.

DESTROY IT WITH
YOUR ELECTRICITY. GIVE IT
ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING
YOU HAVE AND THEN
SOME, UNDERSTOOD?

I--OKAY.
SURE.

MOORE
IS ONE OF THE
MOST POWERFUL
ELECTRO-METAS
ON EARTH.

I'M COUNTING
ON THIS TO BE
OUR **BREAK-
THROUGH.**

OKAY. GOOD
START, MOORE! BUT
YOU'RE **HOLDING BACK!**
YOUR TARGET IS SIMPLY
DRINKING IT UP!

**POUR IT
ON! SHOW ME
WHAT YOU'VE
GOT!**



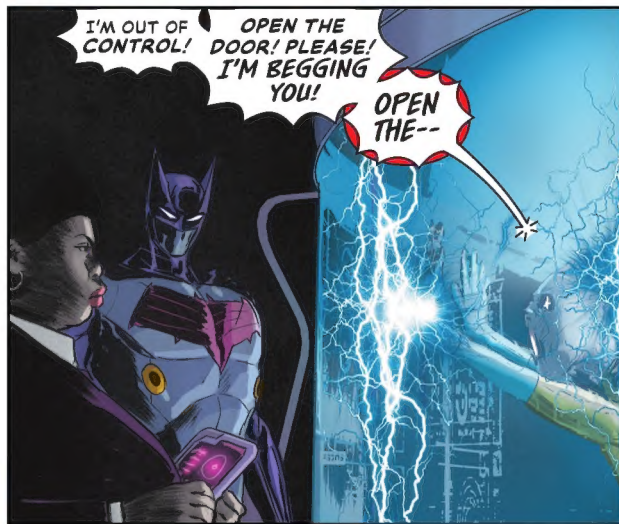
W-WAIT!

WHAT'S HA-
HAPPENING?

SOMETHING'S
WRONG! OPEN
THE DOOR!



LET
ME OUT OF
HERE!



I'M OUT OF
CONTROL!

OPEN THE
DOOR! PLEASE!
I'M BEGGING
YOU!

OPEN
THE--



SPLUTT

DAMN IT.
IT'S THE FINAL
PIECE OF THE
PUZZLE! WHAT
HAPPENED THIS
TIME?

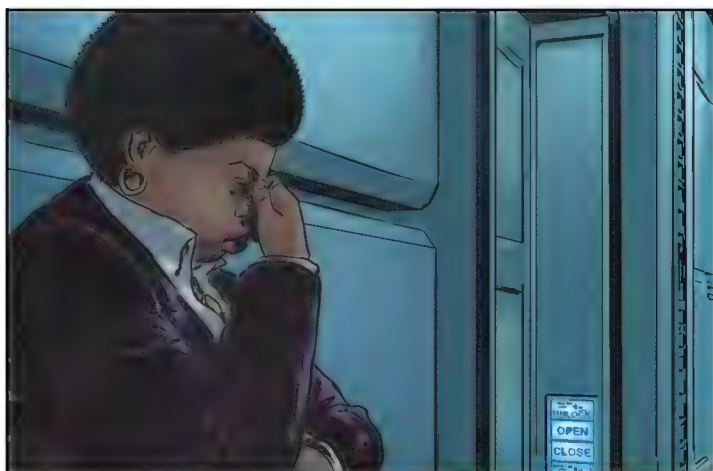
SAME AS BEFORE. THE
ROBOT CREATED SOME SORT
OF SUPERPOWER FEEDBACK
LOOP RATHER THAN ABSORB
ANYTHING. IT'S UNCHANGED.

WHAT
NOW?



SIGH
WE KEEP
TRYING.

JOLT
FIRE KING
ZEBRA MAN
HAYWIRE
MATTER MASTER
DOCTOR PHOSPHORUS



"WHAT DO
YOU SEE?"





PRELUDE TO

ABSOLUTE POWER

MARK WAID SCRIPT
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MATTHEW LEVINE ASSOCIATE EDITOR
PAUL KAMINSKI EDITOR

SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

THE COUNTDOWN TO ABSOLUTE POWER
CONTINUES IN THE PAGES OF

HOUSE OF BRAINIAC

AND ABSOLUTE POWER: GROUND ZERO

**HAS IVY SOWN THE SEEDS OF
HER OWN DESTRUCTION?**

POISON IVY

© & TM DC.

**WRITTEN BY
G. WILLOW
WILSON**

**ART BY
MARCIO
TAKARA**

**COVERS BY
JESSICA
FONG**

**A FATEFUL
THREE-ISSUE
ARC OF THE
GLAAD MEDIA
AWARD-WINNING
SERIES STARTS
IN MAY'S
POISON IVY #22**



POISON IVY #22 COVER

DAWN OF DC

SUICIDE SQUAD

DREAM TEAM

Amanda Waller has long employed ruthless methods to exert control over the super-powered population of the DC Universe—but she's shown an all-new intensity as of late in stories like *Titans: Beast World*, as she looks to seize power like never before.

The next step in Waller's quest is *Suicide Squad: Dream Team*, a four-issue series from writer Nicole Maines and artists Eddy Barrows and Eber Ferreira. As Waller gathers a new Task Force X—Harley Quinn, Bizarro, Clock King, Black Alice, and Deadeye—she seeks to exploit Dreamer's precognition skills to eliminate what Waller perceives to be a growing threat posed by metahumans.

"This is a very different space than what [Dreamer is] used to, and where we're used to seeing her," Maines says. "Dealing with Amanda Waller and this new Suicide Squad is going to force her to decide what kind of hero she wants to be, and what she is willing to sacrifice to save the future."

The events of *Suicide Squad: Dream Team* will have ramifications across DC's publishing line in 2024—and with issue #1 on sale in March, here's a look at Barrows's character sketches for the series!



AMANDA WALLER



BIZARRO



DREAMER



CLOCK KING



HARLEY QUINN



DON'T MISS SUICIDE SQUAD: DREAM TEAM #1, ON SALE IN MARCH!

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